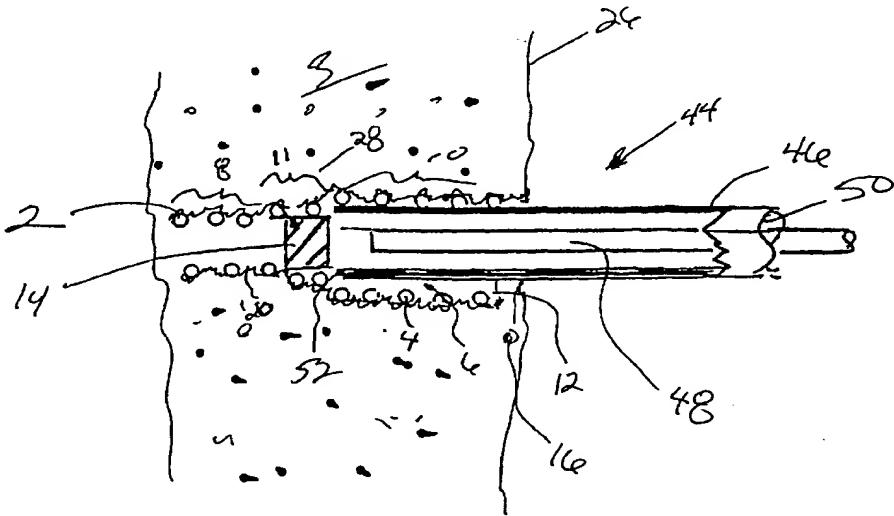


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(54) Title: AGENT DELIVERY SYSTEMS



(57) Abstract

The present invention provides a system for delivering a therapeutic agent into tissue in combination with an implant device (2). Preferably the therapeutic substance is contained within a pellet form (14) that is deliverable into the interior of the device (2) after it has been implanted. In a preferred embodiment the implant device (2) comprises a flexible coiled spring body, the coils (4) of which have the proper diameter and spacing to contain the pellet (14) within the interior of the device (2) to contact the therapeutic agent. In treatment of ischemic tissue such as that of the myocardium of the heart, the mechanical irritation of the tissue caused by the implanted device (2) can help to provide an angiogenic effect. Additionally, the cavity (18) provided by the interior of the device (2) permits blood to pool around the pellet (14) and mix with the therapeutic agent. Several delivery systems have provided for delivering the implant and pellet (14) sequentially or simultaneously.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/US00/13119

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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 US CL :604/57

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 604/57

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

NONE

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

NONE

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4,326,522 A (GUERRERO et al.) 27 April 1982, Figs. 1-4, and related text.	1
A	US 5,851,217 A (WOLFF et al.) 22 December 1998, Figs. 1-3.	1-11
A,P	US 5,971,993 A (HUSSEIN et al.) 26 October 1999, entire patent.	1-11

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

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